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CITY OF NASHVILLE

REGULATING

Traffic Upon Streets

And Rates of Fare that May Be Charged by
Taxicabs and Automobiles.



Higginbotham. Nashville

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Taxicabs and Automobiles.

Nashville, Tenn. Ordinances



Higginbotham. Nashville

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ORDINANCE

OF THE

City of Nashville

Regulating Traffic Upon Streets

HILARY E. HOWSE, MAYOR

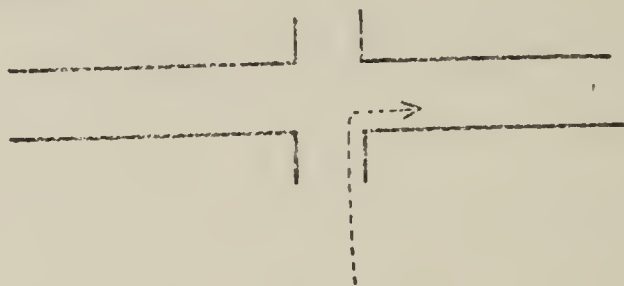
SECTION 1.

TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS.

1. A vehicle, except when passing a vehicle ahead, shall keep as near the right hand curb as possible.
 2. A vehicle meeting another shall pass to the right.
 3. A vehicle overtaking another shall pass on the left side of the overtaken vehicle, and not pull over to the right until entirely clear of it. This does not apply to street cars.
 4. A vehicle overtaking a street car or another vehicle in the street car tracks, shall pass on the right hand side of the overtaken street car or such vehicle in the street car tracks.
- A vehicle turning into another street to the right shall turn the corner as near the right

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hand curb as practicable. This direction is illustrated thus:



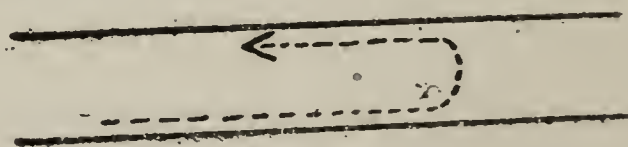
5. A vehicle turning into another street to the left shall turn around the center of intersection of the two streets. This direction is illustrated thus:



The wrong way or the negative of this direction is illustrated thus:

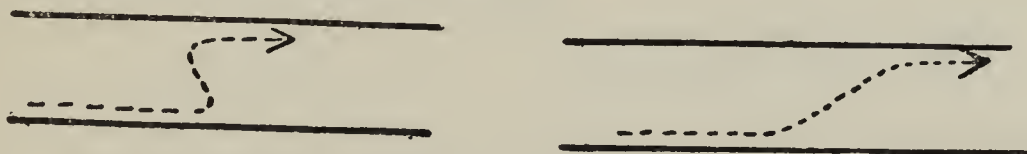


6. A vehicle crossing from one side of the street to the other shall turn so as to bring the right-hand side of the vehicle next to the curb of the turning vehicle, and it must be headed in the direction of traffic. No vehicle shall come to a stand at the sidewalk, except that it be headed in the direction of traffic. This rule is illustrated thus:



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And the wrong way or the negative of the method of turning to the opposite side of the street are illustrated thus:



7. No vehicle shall stop with its left side to the curb, except on established cab, hack and truck stands.

8. No vehicle shall stand backed up to the curb, except when actually loading or unloading, and if such vehicle is horse-drawn and has four wheels, the horse or horses must stand parallel to the curb and facing in the direction of traffic, but no vehicle shall stand so backed up, if it interferes with or interrupts the passage of other vehicles or street cars.

9. No vehicle must be left standing within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant or U. S. mail box, or adjacent to the curb at the point where passengers of street cars are required to alight or embark.

10. No vehicle, unless in an emergency, or to allow another vehicle or pedestrians to cross its path, shall stop in any public street or highway, except near the right-hand curb thereof, and so as not to obstruct the crossing, or when following a street car that has stopped for passengers to alight or embark.

11. No vehicle shall back or make a turn in any street, except at the corners; vehicles shall go either around the block or to a corner sufficiently wide to turn in without backing.

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12. A vehicle following a street car must not pass or approach within 10 feet of it when the street car has stopped for passengers to alight or embark.

13. No vehicle shall be permitted to race upon any street within the city limits.

14. No automobile or other machine propelled vehicle shall be left standing in the street with the machinery running, without an attendant in charge.

15. No horse shall be left unattended in any street or highway, unless securely fastened, and it shall not be allowed to stand unbitted in any street or highway, unless secured by a halter. In case of the removal of any wheel, pole, shaft, whiffle-tree, splinter-bar, or any part of a harness, likely to cause accident if the horse or horses start, without first unhitching the horse or horses attached to said vehicle.

16. No one shall cease to hold the reins in his hands while driving, riding or conducting a horse.

SPEED LIMITS.

17. No vehicle shall exceed a greater speed than 9 miles an hour in the following limits:

First, Second and Third Avenues between Broadway and the Public Square; Fourth and Fifth Avenues between Broadway and Deaderick Street; Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Avenues between Broadway and Union Street; Church Street between First Avenue and Eighth Avenue; Union Street between First Avenue and Eighth Avenue; Deaderick Street

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between the Public Square and Fifth Avenue; the Public Square, West End Avenue, and Broadway, when crossing Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Avenues, North, and on Woodland, Russell and Fathering Streets when crossing Seventh Street, South, and not more than eight miles an hour when turning corners, and not more than fifteen miles an hour in other parts of the city, and no more than nine miles an hour when going across the thoroughfares or cross-section streets.

RIGHT OF WAY.

18. Police, Fire, Hospital Ambulances, Traffic Emergency Repair, U. S. Mail Vehicles shall have the right of way in any street or thoroughfare and through any procession. Street cars shall have the right of way between cross streets, over all other vehicles, except those named, and the driver of any vehicle proceeding upon the track in front of any street car shall immediately turn out upon signal by the motorman, driver or conductor of the car.

19. No vehicle or street car shall so occupy any street so as to interfere or interrupt the passage of other street cars or vehicles.

20. No slow-moving vehicle transporting drayage shall be driven between the hours of 7 o'clock a. m. and 6 o'clock p. m., on Church or Union Streets, between Third Avenue, North, and Eighth Avenue, North, or on Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Avenues, North, between Church Street and Union Street, except for such distance as may be reasonably necessary to reach the building to which it is going.

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21. A vehicle waiting at the curb shall promptly give place to a vehicle about to take on or let off passengers.

22. No vehicle shall be stopped or left in front of the entrance to office buildings, theaters, hotels, department stores, or other entrances to places of congestion, for any longer time than is sufficient to deliver its occupants on the sidewalk, or goods intended for such building, and the driver in charge of such vehicle shall move up promptly to permit others to arrive for like purpose.

23. The driver of a vehicle, on the approach of a fire engine or apparatus, shall immediately draw up his vehicle as nearly as practicable to the right-hand curb, and parallel thereto, and bring it to a standstill, and a street car shall immediately stop and keep its station upon the approach of a fire engine or apparatus.

24. That vehicles of high speed, power or motive energy, shall have the right of way over vehicles of slow motive power, at crossings.

CONSTRUCTION OR LOADING.

25. No one shall drive a vehicle that is so covered or constructed as to prevent the driver thereof from having a sufficient view of the traffic following and at the sides of such vehicle.

26. No one shall drive or conduct any vehicle in such condition, so constructed, of such width or so loaded, as to be likely to cause delay in traffic or accident or injury to man, beast

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or property. If such vehicle is loaded with iron or other material that may strike together and make a deafening noise, it shall be properly deafened or deadened; nor shall any vehicle be loaded with material projecting beyond the width of the vehicle.

CHAUFFEURS OR DRIVERS.

27. No one shall be permitted to operate an automobile while intoxicated, or who shall use obscene or profane language while waiting on the streets or in the presence of his passengers. A chauffeur for any taxicab or automobile for hire, or driver of any public vehicle, who is required to take out a license permit, upon conviction for either of such offenses, shall have his license revoked, such conviction operating per se as a revocation of his license, and he shall not be allowed to register again for six months.

28. No one shall drive a public licensed or business vehicle who is less than eighteen years of age, and no person incapacitated from using both feet and both hands to operate the vehicle shall be permitted to drive it.

29. No child under ten years of age shall be left unattended in any standing vehicle on the streets.

30. No one shall ride upon the rear end, or take hold of the side or rear end of any moving vehicle for the purpose of riding or being drawn by it.

SIGNALS.

31. In slowing up or stopping any vehicle,

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the signal shall be given by those behind by raising the whip or hand vertically. In turning while in motion, or in starting to turn from a standstill, the signal shall be given by raising the whip or hand, indicating the direction in which the turn is to be made.

32. Before backing, ample warning shall be given, and while backing unceasing vigilance shall be exercised not to injure those behind.

33. One blast of police whistle indicates that the east and west traffic shall stop, and that the north and south traffic may proceed. Two blasts that the north and south traffic must stop, and that the east and west traffic may proceed. Vehicles and street cars must stop so as not to interfere with the passage of pedestrians at the crossings. Three or more blasts is a signal of alarm, and indicates the approach of the fire engine, fire apparatus, ambulance, police patrol, emergency repair, or U. S. Mail vehicle, or some other danger.

34. No vehicle shall be used on any street or highway unless provided with lights and sound signal as provided by law, and use the same as provided by law.

35. The driver of any vehicle, on his receiving a signal or has knowledge that a horse is frightened at his approach or vehicle, must stop and give the attendant of said frightened horse an opportunity to get it under control.

36. That a failure to obey the signals to stop, start, or take the routes of direction given by any traffic officer, shall be unlawful and punished as herein provided.

ACCIDENTS.

37. In case of injury, the driver must stop at once and ascertain the extent of the injury and render assistance, and must give his name and address, if required.

SECTION 2.

PEDESTRIANS.

That pedestrians shall not step from the sidewalk to the road-bed without first looking to see what is approaching, and shall not needlessly interfere with the passage of vehicles or street cars. While the road-beds of streets and highways are primarily intended for vehicles, pedestrians have the right to cross them in safety, and pedestrians in their turn must not cross the streets except at street crossings, and shall cross the streets as nearly as possible at right-angles, and not diagonally. This provision, however, shall not excuse the driver of any vehicle from constant vigilance to avoid injury to pedestrians under all conditions or from his own carelessness.

SECTION 3.

DEFINITIONS.

That the word "vehicle" includes equestrians, horses led, and everything on wheels or runners, whether propelled by man, animal or mechanical energy, except street cars, baby carriages and roller skates.

SECTION 4.

BRAKES, HORNS AND SIGNAL DEVICES.

That all automobiles, motorcycles, mechanical-propelled vehicles using the streets of the City of Nashville, must be provided with good brakes, and with bell, horn, siren or signal device, producing an abrupt sound loud enough to warn persons of the presence of such vehicles and of danger. The making of unnecessary noise shall be unlawful, and such vehicles shall be provided with steering-gear and brakes in good and working order. Automobiles must be provided with mufflers, and they must not be cut out or inoperative while using the streets. Such vehicles, while on the streets or highways, must be lighted from sunset to one hour before sunrise, with two lamps in front and one behind; front lamps must be visible at least 200 feet, rear lamp must throw a red light in the reverse direction and show white to side next the number.

Automobiles and motorcycles must have a number-plate at the back, and it must be legible 150 feet. The rear number-plate must be unobstructed and visible from any angle, the lamp alongside of it not less than 6 inches nor more than twelve inches from the plate, nor project more than six inches. The number-plate shall be of the same dimensions as provided by the State law. No unnecessary noxious smoke, gas, steam or offensive odor shall be allowed to escape from any automobile.

CITY OF NASHVILLE

SECTION 5.
REGISTRATION.

That all automobiles and motorcycles shall be registered once a year, the year to commence the first day of April, and the registration must be completed by the 15th day of April.

Any automobile or motorcycle acquired or put in operation after the 15th day of April shall be registered within 15 days after it is put in operation.

\$1.00 shall be paid for each registration.

Such automobiles or motorcycles shall be registered at the office of the Mayor, and the fee shall be paid upon said certificate of registration to the City Treasurer, upon warrant of the City Comptroller.

All chauffeurs operating on any automobile or taxicab for hire shall be registered once a year in a registration book in the Mayor's office, and shall pay a fee of 50 cents therefor. He shall register between April 1st and April 15th, and shall procure a metal badge with its proper serial number, and wear the same conspicuously exposed on his person. Any person taking employment as a public chauffeur after the 15th of April shall first take out his registration before he commences work.

SECTION 6.
WHEEL TAX.

That—

Each motorcycle for hire or used for business purposes shall pay

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an annual wheel tax to the City
of Nashville of\$ 3.00

Each automobile or motor vehicle
of 35-horse power or less, used
for transportation of persons for
hire, shall pay an annual tax of..\$10.00

Each automobile or motor vehicle
of more than 35 horse power,
used for the transportation of
persons for hire, exclusive of
trucks, coaches, omnibuses, shall
pay an annual tax of.....\$20.00

Each automobile truck, coach or
omnibus, used for commercial
purposes, shall pay an annual
tax of\$30.00

Each automobile delivery wagon
used for light delivery, and for
conveying loads of less than two
tons in weight, shall pay an an-
nual tax of\$15.00

Automobile delivery wagons used
for light delivery, and conveying
loads of more than two tons in
weight, shall pay an annual tax
of\$20.00

The above license fees expire on April 1st,
and shall be paid not later than April 15th of
each year; provided, that if any of such vehi-
cles are put in operation after said period, then
the said tax shall be apportioned.

SECTION 7.

RATE OF FARES FOR TAXICABS AND
AUTOMOBILES.

Be It Further Enacted, That no person, firm or corporation owning, operating or controlling any taxicab, shall let the same for hire or reward, for a fee or charge to be fixed and determined by the hour or fraction thereof, but the fare demanded and received shall (except for waiting time as herein provided for) be computed by the distance traveled and shall not exceed the following rates:

For the first half-mile or fraction thereof, for one person 30 cts.
for each one-fourth mile thereafter 10 cts.

For each additional person for the whole journey 20 cts.

For each four minutes of waiting. 10 cts.

50 lbs. of baggage shall be carried free of charge, per passenger, and 25 cents for a trunk.

Waiting time shall include the time during which the taxicab is not in motion, beginning with its arrival at the place to which it has been called, or the time consumed while standing at the direction of a passenger, but no charge shall be made for time lost for inefficiency of the taxicab or its operator, or for time consumed by a premature arrival in response to a call; provided, however, that no

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operator or driver of any taxicab which has responded to the call of a prospective passenger shall throw down or place in a recording position the flag attached to the taximeter, until at least eight minutes' waiting time have elapsed or been consumed. It shall be the duty of the operator of every taxicab at the termination of his services to throw the flag to the non-recording position on the taximeter and call the passenger's attention to the amount registered. The taximeter shall not be changed until after the fare is paid, or a charge ticket therefor made out and delivered to the person hiring such taxicab.

Each passenger upon a taxicab shall be allowed to convey with him upon such vehicle, without charge therefor, his ordinary light traveling baggage in an amount not to exceed in weight 50 lbs. A fee of 25 cents may be charged for conveying a trunk.

Whenever a package or baggage of any kind shall be left upon any taxicab, the operator shall, upon discovery thereof, forthwith deliver the same to the police headquarters, with such information as he possesses leading to the return thereof to the owner.

All persons, firms or corporations owning or operating or controlling any automobile for hire, may equip the same with a taximeter, and when equipped with a taximeter, rates may be charged as provided for in case of taxicabs; and when not equipped with a taximeter the rate shall be as follows, to-wit:

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Four passengers or less, per hour, \$3.00.

Five passengers or more, per hour, \$4.00.

Fifty pounds of baggage per passenger shall be carried free, and all trunks shall be carried for not more than 25 cents.

SECTION 8.

STREET CAR STOPS.

Street cars going east on Church Street shall stop only at the corner of Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Avenues, at the side of intersection of approach; and going west shall stop at the corner of Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Avenues, North, at the intersection of approach, and shall not stop at the Capitol Boulevard or Polk Place, or at any other points than those designated, on Church Street. On Third Avenue, North, cars shall stop at the corner of Church Street, and the corner of Union Street, and at the intersection of the Public Square, on the side of approach of said intersections.

SECTION 9.

INSPECTION OF TAXIMETERS.

It shall be the duty of the city sealer of weights and measures to examine, inspect and seal at least once in every three months all taximeters used in the City of Nashville; provided, that in the event complaint is made to the said city sealer that any taximeter registers improperly or incorrectly, then it shall be his

TRAFFIC REGULATION

duty immediately to examine and inspect such taximeter; and every such examination and inspection shall include examination and inspection of every taximeter affixed to the taxicab, every wheel, tire, gear, shaft and every part of the mechanism which may affect or control the operation of such taximeter, and the usual standards of measures and tests shall be used therein by the city sealer; and it shall be the duty of the city sealer of weights and measures to seal all taximeters found correct and accurate and keep a record of the number of all taximeters and the date of the examination and inspection thereof in the books of his office. There shall be a fee charged for said examination and inspection of seventy-five (75 cents) cents for all taximeters, but no charge shall be made for inspections made upon complaint unless the taximeters register incorrectly or inaccurately.

All taxicabs shall have affixed thereto a taximeter, and no person, firm or corporation owning or operating any taxicab shall offer or let the same for hire or reward anywhere within the City of Nashville unless the taximeter affixed thereto has been examined, inspected and tested by said city sealer, and if such taximeter, after such examination, inspection and test, does not properly and correctly register, indicate or display the distance traveled, the time consumed and the amount of extras used by the taxicab and the amount of fare to be determined and charged therefor, then and in tha

CITY OF NASHVILLE

event it shall be unlawful for the owner, operator or person in charge of said taxicab to use or permit its use until there is affixed to said taxicab a taximeter approved by the said city sealer.

Every taximeter shall be so connected or affixed to the taxicab that the amount of fare determined and charged for its use shall be plainly visible from the inside of the taxicab to all passengers or occupants of the taxicab, and during the period which by law motor vehicles are to be equipped with lights on or about such taximeter there shall be a light so reflected upon the dial of the taximeter as to enable passengers or occupants to read the figures indicated thereon from the inside of the taxicab.

There shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the inside of each licensed taxicab and automobile a card to be supplied by the City Treasurer at the time of the issuance of the license, which card shall contain in plain, legible type the name of the license, the number of license, the rate of fare provided for herein, a reference to this ordinance by number and such other extracts from this ordinance as the Mayor may determine.

SECTION 10.

PENALTY AND CONTROL.

1. The control of traffic shall be under the general supervision of the Mayor and the Police Department.

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2. To insure the safety of the traveling public and of expedition in handling traffic, any violation of any of the foregoing provisions shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and any person, firm or corporation, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$50.00.

SECTION 11.

The jurisdiction of this ordinance is embraced within the limits of the City of Nashville. It is expressly intended and ordained that the non-enforcement of any provision contained herein shall or cannot be pleaded or put in evidence against the City of Nashville in any action at law or cause in equity.

SECTION 12.

This ordinance is to be a complete system of traffic regulations for the City of Nashville.

SECTION 13.

That all laws and parts of law in conflict herewith are expressly repealed.

SECTION 14.

That this ordinance take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Enacted by the Board of Commissioners, January 14, 1914.

Approved January 14, 1914:

H. E. HOWSE, Mayor.

Attest: J. W. DASHIELL, Secretary.

Prepared by A. G. EWING, JR., City Attorney.



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